

FISCAL NOTE
SB 535 - HB 1133

March 10, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL:

1. Requires persons or entities doing business with the state, or subsidiaries or contractors of such persons or entities, that pay consulting fees to legislative or executive branch officials, municipal or county officials or immediate family members of either type of such officials, to disclose to the Registry of Election Finance specific information relating to those fees.
2. Requires members of the General Assembly and members of a municipal or county legislative body to make the same disclosure relative to receipt of consulting fees.
3. Makes it a Class A misdemeanor for:
 - any person or entity, or subsidiary or contractor of such person or entity, to knowingly fail to file a disclosure form as required by this bill;
 - any member of the General Assembly or any member of a municipal or county legislative body to receive a fee, commission or any other form of compensation for consulting services and knowingly fail to disclose such fee.
4. Makes it a Class C misdemeanor for any person or entity, or subsidiary or contractor of such person or entity, to file a disclosure form more than 30 days after the date on which a consulting fee for which disclosure is required is paid.
5. Requires every employer of a lobbyist who makes expenditures or incurs obligations in an aggregate amount exceeding \$500 in a calendar year for lobbying purposes, must submit a registration statement to the Registry which could be revoked for failure to pay child support or alimony.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$14,500 One-Time

\$49,000 Recurring

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant

Assumptions:

- Increased state expenditures to the Registry for an additional staff person to carry out requirements of the bill (relative to the lobbyists requirements), development of a new disclosure form, printing, postage and supplies.
- There would not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for local governments to experience any significant increase in revenues or expenses.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director